IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

10/664,234

Applicant

RUAN et al.

Filed

September 17, 2003

TC/A.U.

1634

Examiner

Diana B. Johannsen

Attorney Docket No.:

3240-105

Customer No.

6449

Confirmation No. :

3948

MAIL STOP: AF

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being submitted in response to the March 2, 2009 Office Action mailed in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the Office Action was originally due June 2, 2009. Applicants request a three-month extension of time, thereby extending the due date to September 2, 2009. Accordingly, this paper is being timely filed on or before September 2, 2009.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.

A Declaration (Attachment A) is attached following the Remarks.

A Curriculum Vitae (Attachment B) is attached following the Remarks.

A Japanese Notice of Allowance (Attachment C) is attached following the Remarks.